

How to Save Water!



In this book we've learned how important water is. Plants, animals and people all must have water to live. Without water our planet Earth would be like Mars — nothing could live here.

You may have heard people talk about how fast Florida is growing. They don't mean the size of Florida is growing. What they mean is there are more

people in Florida. There are more people in the same amount of space. And we still have the same amount of water.

What that means is that with more people, there is less water to go around.

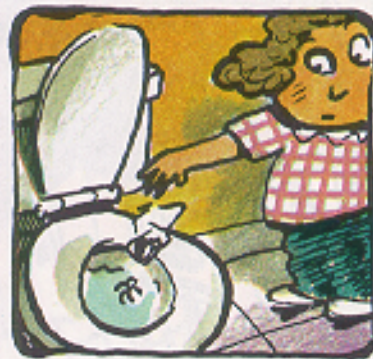
Here are some ways you can help save water.



Turn off the faucet when you brush your teeth or wash your hands. If you brush or wash for two minutes you use 6 gallons. Turn off the water while you scrub and you use one gallon. You save **5 gallons**.



Take shorter showers. Every minute you spend in the shower you use about 5 gallons. Spend 3 minutes less in the shower. You save **15 gallons**.



Don't use toilets as wastebaskets. Every flush uses about 5 gallons. Throw tissues and bugs in the waste basket. You save **5 gallons**.



Keep water in the refrigerator. If you run water in the sink until it gets cold, that's water down the drain. You save **3 gallons**.



Turn off the hose when you're not using the water to wash a car, fill a pool or water the yard. Five minutes of wasting water from a hose uses about 40 gallons. Don't be a gutter flooder. You save **40 gallons**.

Here are a few more water-saving tips for your family.

- Get an adult to help you fix dripping faucets indoors and outside.
- Water the garden only when it needs it — not more than once a week in the winter.
- Remind your parents to wash full loads of laundry and dishes.
- Make sure your family uses cold water for cooking instead of waiting for it to get hot from the faucet.
- Also tell your parents to be sure your lawn sprinklers don't spray onto sidewalks, streets or driveways.